

NEW PLAN OFFERED FOR FOOD INQUIRY

Byron R. Newton Would Trace Price From Consumer Back to the Producer.

HINTS AT DEALERS' PLOT

Excessive cost of food products could be determined, in the opinion of Assistant Secretary Byron R. Newton of the Treasury Department, by tracing the staple articles back from the consumer to the producer. He suggests that the price the housewife pays for a certain article of food first be ascertained, then the cost to the retailer who sold it, what the retailer paid for it to the wholesaler, and so on, down the line to the price obtained by the farmer who grew it.

Mr. Newton made this suggestion in a statement issued yesterday. He said:

"The normal impulse of the normal citizen, together with the lessons of many years of newspaper experience, prompt me to offer this suggestion. Why not take the simple course of taking the staple product and trace its pathway from consumer to producer after this manner:

Example Is Cited.

"Begin with Mrs. Brown, an intelligent housewife. Find that this morning, for example, she paid, we will say, 12 cents a pound for five pounds of sugar. She bought it from Tom Jones, the retail grocer. Next, go to Jones. Ask him where he obtained the barrel of sugar from which Mrs. Brown's purchase was delivered and what he paid for it.

"Possibly he would say that he paid the normal figure, from 4 to 5 cents, but that he had charged 12 cents because he was informed that the supply was exhausted. Then call for his evidence, any letters or telegrams that he might have in support of that statement.

"Follow that to the wholesaler, to the producer, and so on to the very fountain head.

"I believe that such a simple direct line of investigation would disclose valuable information. Possibly this line of investigation is being followed. If not, it seems to me it could be taken up in hundreds of localities and with reference to all products for which excessive prices are charged.

Suspects the Dealers.

"I am also inclined to believe that it will eventually be disclosed that dealers have in studied fashion used the newspapers for dissemination of false information as to the scarcity of products. A case in point is the coal situation in a certain great city.

"I am told that recently the controlling coal dealer in that city called in the papers and told them that the shortage of coal in that city, representing that the supply was sufficient to last for a month or more, was a mere matter of course, the newspapers printed the story and it was accepted as the real situation without any particular investigation.

"Subsequently, however, it was discovered that at the very time this statement was given out the city was in the city a normal supply of coal. This, of course, came to me merely as a story."

ARMY ORDERS.

Leave of absence for one month is granted Capt. William F. Sharp, field artillery, detached officers' list.

Sergts. Dunn K. Steele, W. A. Hoeveler, Jr.; J. G. Treas, Arthur L. Richmond, Frederick H. Harvey, John Mitchell and Hamilton Coudelle of the Signal Enlisted Reserve Corps are assigned to active duty in the Aviation Section, Signal Enlisted Reserve Corps, with station at the Curtiss Aviation School, Miami, Fla.

Sergts. L. T. Harvey, E. P. Marshall, 2d; James W. Watts, Edwin M. Weis, Randolph G. Page and Gilmore L. Tibbott of the Signal Enlisted Reserve Corps are assigned to active duty in the Aviation Section, Signal Enlisted Reserve Corps, with station at the Curtiss Aviation School, Newport News, Va.

By direction of the President Bernard A. Schaaf, former first sergeant of Company K, 8th Regiment, United States Infantry, and later a lieutenant of Philippine Scouts, is placed upon the retired list of the army, with the rank, pay and allowance of a master signal electrician.

Sergt. Daniel E. Edwards, regular army reservist, Norfolk, Va., is detailed to active duty at the Gordon Institute, Barnesville, Ga.

Sergt. George Miller, regular army reservist, Dover, N. J., is detailed to active duty at St. John's Military Academy, Delaware, Wis.

Col. Armand L. Lasselgne, infantry, having completed the term of his leave, was ordered to this city, will proceed to San Juan, P. R., and take station at that place. He is detailed to duty with the National Guard in Porto Rico as Inspector-Instructor.

Sergt. John J. Kennedy, regular army reservist, San Antonio, Tex., is detailed to active duty at the Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

First Sergt. Joseph Wheeler, retired, Vancouver, Wash., is detailed to active duty at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.

Sergt. First Class William Bahr, retired, is relieved from duty at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark., and will proceed to his home.

Capt. Joseph H. Earle, Corps of Engineers, is relieved from duty with the 1st Regiment of Engineers, and will report to the commanding general, Southern Department, for duty.

Orchestral Concerts.

By the U. S. Soldiers' Home Band Orchestra, John S. M. Zimmermann, director, in Stanley Hall, at 6:30 o'clock this evening:

March, "Loyal Comrades." Blankenberg

Overture, "The Bohemian Girl." Balfe

Fantasia, "The Evolution of Date." Lake

Selection, "So Long, Letty." Carroll

Dance, "Admiration." Tyers

Patrol, "Cupid." Moret

Waltz suite, "Wiener Burger." Zieher

Finale, "Aunt Patsy." Richardson

"The Star Spangled Banner."

At the U. S. Marine barracks, tomorrow at 2:30 p.m., by the U. S. Marine Band Orchestra, William H. Santelmann, leader.

"Marche Russe." Ganne

Overture, "Egmont." Beethoven

(a) "Largo." Handel

(b) "Valse Tristesse." Sibelius

(c) "Valse Solo, 'Spanish Dance' (Op. 68, No. 1)." Rehfeld

Musician, Henry Stephen.

Waltz, "Spring, Beautiful Spring." Lincke

Spanish suite, "La Fete de Seville." Tavan

(a) Bolero. (b) Jota. (c) Sevillana. (d) Marche des Toreadors.

Grand scenes from "Carmen." Bizet

Marines' hymn, "The Halls of Montezuma."

TECH PLAYERS IN "MIKADO."



Standing, left to right: Sigmund Sachs, Alvin Friel, Amelia Gude, Mary Langley, Branson Thomas, Kueeling; Stanley DePue, Gladys Price, Frances Hill and Luke Fegan.

GOVERNOR ON STAND IN HIS OWN DEFENSE

Texas Executive Before Legislative Committee Denies Charges Made by H. C. Poe.

By the Associated Press.

AUSTIN, Tex., March 10.—Gov. James E. Ferguson of Texas, testifying today in his own behalf before a legislative committee, denied charges made by H. C. Poe, former president of the Temple State Bank, that he had attempted to prevent the recording of certain mortgage liens held by the Temple bank, of which the governor formerly was president, and expended his disbursements for traveling expenses and expenditures for the maintenance of the executive mansion. Gov. Ferguson will continue his testimony when the hearing is resumed Monday.

The governor also denied statements made by Poe, who concluded his testimony early in the afternoon, that he had assumed responsibility for notes given by John McKay, former secretary of state, for \$8,500, and by Will R. Wallace, his brother-in-law, for \$20,000. He went into detail to show that the notes were given by the three men and paid by them.

Limits His Campaign Expenses.

In the case of McKay note, the governor said that when he "hit the road and beat the politicians" in his race for governor, he estimated before the campaign that he could not afford expenses above \$25,000. He told this to McKay, who was his manager, and to whom he delegated all financial affairs. When the campaign was over it was found that the expenses had run \$25,000 or \$25,000 above \$25,000.

"I told McKay I had no money," said the governor, and he gave his note to the Temple State Bank.

"Nothing could be more deliberately untrue than Poe's statement that I told him that McKay's note was mine," added the witness.

"McKay paid it off, and I paid him."

During his testimony Gov. Ferguson gave figures to show that his properties were sufficiently valuable to more than secure all his obligations.

Other Items Explained.

Regarding money expended for traveling expenses, Gov. Ferguson declared such money was spent for the state's benefit and resulted in the saving of huge sums. Through the employment of an agent to visit state institutions, he said, big savings were made possible, and due largely to this plan the penitentiary, which had a deficit of \$700,000 when he became governor, now showed a profit of \$400,000.

The fact that vouchers had reached the controller's office on purchases of musical supplies, jewelry and other articles at the executive mansion, the governor said, was due to mistakes and oversight on his part in indorsing vouchers. He said when he learned of these mistakes he immediately paid the bills.

DISCUSSES COLOMBIAN TREATY.

Vice President Marshall Expects Further Effort to Ratify It.

Vice President Marshall, calling at the White House yesterday to pay his respects to the President before departing for a trip through the south, said he anticipated a further effort would be made to ratify the Colombian treaty during the present session of the Senate. Because of the foreign situation, he added, it is more necessary than ever that friendly relations be maintained with all Central and South American nations.

The Vice President expressed the opinion that the extra session of Congress would be apt to continue several months.



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KILLS PAIN

ROB THE APARTMENT OF LIEUT. A. T. CHURCH

Burglars Help Themselves to Jewelry Worth \$155.—Mr. Easterday Also Loses \$60.

Burglars yesterday afternoon visited the apartments of Lieut. Albert T. Church, U. S. N., and William Easterday in the Decatur, 2131 Florida avenue, and helped themselves to articles of jewelry valued at \$155. Lieut. Church was the heavier loser, his property being valued at \$155, while that of Mr. Easterday was valued at \$60.

Doors leading to the apartments were forced open with a jimmy. Detectives Armstrong and Grant reported, and in each apartment the intruders selected the most valuable articles they could find. They were what the detectives termed "pickers," taking only such articles as they could readily dispose of.

Richard Kidwell, colored, Fairmont Heights, Md., last night complained to the police that he was assaulted and robbed of \$16 while on his way home yesterday afternoon. Kidwell said he was at 61st street and the street car tracks, only a short distance from Seat Pleasant, when two men participated in the reported assault and robbery.

He furnished the names and descriptions of his alleged assailants. Other robberies have been reported to the police by the following: John J. Wynne, 915 Rhode Island avenue, automobile tire valued at \$40; Mrs. Little Jefferson, 1825 T street, seven chickens valued at \$7 from rear yard; Mrs. M. G. Collins, Northern Liberty market, basket containing \$5 worth of provisions from wagon in front of Florence Court; Miss S. J. Maloney, 1632 M street, \$4 worth of chewing gum and candy from show window; Rev. Matthew W. Travers, 826 5th street northeast, garden bench; Gasch & Birge, 1326 New York avenue, gas fixtures and spigots from vacant house, 220 E street northeast.

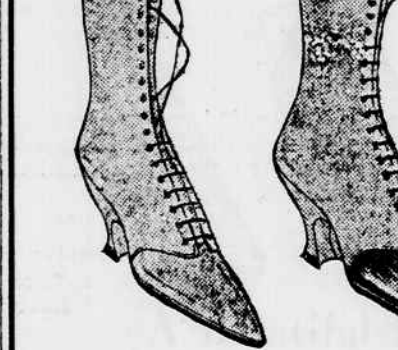
Music Features Law Class Smoker.

Musical selections by the Mohawk Quartet and Meyer Davis' Orchestra featured the annual smoker of the Georgetown law class of '16 last night in the oak room of the Raleigh Hotel. Speakers of the evening were Hugh Pegan, secretary of the law school; Chester K. Gould, toastmaster and president of the class, and Daniel W. Baker, member of the faculty. Other officers of the class are Franklin K. Barr, secretary-treasurer, and J. W. Donohue, sergeant-at-arms.

Costumes Provided by Students.

Costumes for the play have been made by girls of Tech, under the direction of Miss Isabella Solomans. W. C. Myers is general supervisor of arrangements and A. B. Many and Miss M. F. Forbes are coaches.

The demand for seats has been so great that an extra matinee may be necessary. Among the choruses are: "I've Got Him on the List," "Three Little Maids From School," "Hearts Do Not Break," "Sun Song" and "Titwillow."



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MEXICAN CONSTITUTION DENOUNCED BY SPEAKER

Martinez de Alba Discusses Grant of Civil Rights Under Instrument Recently Adopted.

"The Civil Rights in Mexico as Granted by the New Constitution," was the subject for an address by Martinez de Alba, before the Samuel F. Miller Debating Society of the National Law School last night. Senor de Alba, who for several years has been connected with the Mexican consular service in the United States and Spain, vigorously denounced the recently constructed document pronouncing it to be absolutely unrepresentative of the national feelings of Mexicans.

After contrasting the Mexican constitution of 1857 with the constitution of the United States, and announcing that he regarded the former as the superior document, the speaker proceeded to show the radical changes effected by the large number of reforms provided for in the new constitution. Labor, agricultural, social, religious and administrative innovations were noted and condemned by Senor de Alba, who asked of his audience what the United States would do were a reform party

so radically to modify the Constitution upon which this country is founded. Among the faults which the speaker attributed to the new constitution were that it fails to recognize such fundamental rights of man as the right of life itself; that its most elementary provisions "have countless strings attached to them"; that it contains flagrant breaches of the right of contract; that it is permeated with class legislation, and that it limits the right to speak, to write and even to think.

HOTEL TO BRAVE DRY LAW.

Work on the Washington Unaffected by Prohibition Prospect.

The fact that the District of Columbia is to be "dry" as the result of recent legislation is not going to bring about a change in the plans for the erection of the Hotel Washington at 15th street between Pennsylvania avenue and F street on the site of the old coroner's building, according to Robert S. Downs, president of the National Capital Hotel Company.

Work is going ahead as rapidly as possible and prohibition is not to cause any stoppage or change in plans. When the hotel project first was considered it was felt by those interested in the undertaking that the District soon would be "dry" and all calculations were made accordingly.

for the foundations for the new structure will be started in a few days. By August 1 the hotel will be under roof, according to present calculations, and by December the building should be ready for occupancy.

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Now, how much do you know?

For example—

Do you know how Irish linens are made? Why linen is superior to cotton? (See "Linen," Encyclopaedia Britannica, Vol. XVI.) Anything about the beautiful Flemish damasks? (See "Weaving," Encyclopaedia Britannica, Vol. XXVIII.) Where and when cotton was first manufactured into cloth? What moisture in the atmosphere has to do with cotton spinning? Why Fall River stands first in output of American cotton goods?

Do you know that the South is making tremendous strides in cotton manufacture? What district is the center of Southern manufacture? Whether American goods are superior to imported? (See "Cotton Manufacture," Britannica, Vol. VII.) How silk is produced? What the differences are in silks? What is meant by "silk weighting"? What countries fix the prices for the world for silk yarns and raw materials? (See "Silk," Britannica, Vol. XXV.)

Do you know where poplins originated? (See "Poplin,"

Britannica, Vol. XXII.) How "seamless hosiery" is manufactured? (See "Hosiery," Britannica, Vol. XIII.) What different dyes are made of? Which dyes are best for certain fabrics? How to insure "fast colors"? (See "Dyeing," Britannica, Vol. VIII.)

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